SHORT #5

MUROMI chan OF THE SEA
OH! NICE TIMING! YOU'RE A BIT EARLY, BUT I'M HAVING A BARBECUE HERE
I've got sea urchin, too!
茶
HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET ALL THIS STUFF?
AT THE SUPER-MARKET BY THE STATION
LIKE I SAID, HOW ON EARTH DID YOU DO THAT?!

YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY NICE TODAY
DID SOMETHING GOOD HAPPEN?
Come on, It's really nice and fatty!
NOW NOW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE LITTLE THINGS IF YOU'RE A MAN YOU'VE GOTTA EAT AND BE MERRY!
EH? WELL IF IT'S SOMETHING I CAN DO, I DON'T MIND
REALLY?! ALRIGHT, WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
ぴょん
YEAH, WELL IT'S
ACTUALLY, THERE'S A FAVOR I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU
WOULD YOU HEAR ME OUT?
もじ...

どぽぉん
A MERMAID'S WISH, HUH DOES SHE WANT ME TO GIVE HER LEGS IN EXCHANGE FOR HER VOICE OR SOMETHING?
ぼちょ
ぼちょ
HUH?!
EGGS!
FROM WHO?
ME!
UMM, SO, MY REQUEST IS—
むろみさんのたまご!!?
MUROMI-SAN'S EGGS?!

SOME FISH, LIKE THE MEDAKA SPECIES, LAY THEIR EGGS BEFOREHAND, AND THEN THE MALES FERTILIZE THEM
メダカ等は
雌が先に産卵し
後から雄が精子を
かけて受精する
BECOME A FATHER!
NO WAY!!
YOU DON'T LIKE ME?
What if they turn out to be 3/4ths human?!
LIKE I SAID, THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BE A FATHER TO CHILDREN WHO'LL BE HALF FISH!!!
PLEASE! YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT RAISING THEM, OR PAYING CHILD SUPPORT, OR ANY OF THE OTHER FATHERLY THINGS...

WAAAA! I WASN'T ABLE TO BECOME A MOM ONCE MORE!
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T HELP YOU!
I'm sorry, my kids...
COME TO THINK OF IT, I NEVER FOUND OUT HOW THE OTHER MERMAIDS GOT THEIR KIDS FERTILIZED
NOPE, ONLY MERMAIDS!
THERE AREN'T ANY? AT ALL?
THERE AREN'T ANY!
RATHER THAN ME, SHOULDN'T YOU ASK SOMEONE FROM THE SAME SPECIES?
Like a merman?
MAYBE BECAUSE YOU'RE HALF FISH
How would I know?!
WHY DO I CREATE EGGS SOMETIMES?
HMM?! THEN WHY?!

SO, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THESE?
There's a bunch of them!
IF WE LEAVE THEM HERE, THEY'LL JUST ROT!
WHAT TO DO?!
NO THANKS!
NORMALLY, I JUST LET THEM BECOME FOOD FOR OTHER FISH, BUT THAT'S ALWAYS PAINFUL FOR ME!
SO HOW ABOUT YOU EAT THEM?
FIRST, YOU TELL ME TO FERTILIZE THEM, THEN YOU TELL ME TO EAT THEM, I DON'T WANT TO!
BUT LOOK, IF YOU DO IT LIKE THIS, IT LOOKS LIKE A SALMON ROE BOWL!
BUT IT'S NOT SALMON ROE!
NOW IT'S A SEA URCHIN SALMON ROE BOWL!
Super amazing!
BUT IT'S STILL NOT SALMON ROE!

World Three

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